

Message Text

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71

ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 PC-10 USIA-15 IO-14

AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 IGA-02 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /167 W

----- 016299

R 091515Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4213

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ADDIS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUGADOUGOU

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AFDROUGHT

SUBJECT: LOCUSTS, ETHIOPIA AND SAHEL

REF: DAKAR 1777

SUMMARY: CHIEF LOCUST CONTROL GROUP FAO CONFIRMS SOME FEARS
WITH RESPECT HEAVY INFESTATIONS AND POSSIBILITY LATER AFFECTING
SAHEL COUNTRIES BUT BIG PROBLEM NOW IS ERITREA.

1. ACCORDING SINGH, IRAN HAS ONLY RELATIVELY SMALL SWARMS
PRIMARILY FROM PAKISTAN, SITUATION UNDER CONTROL AND NO REAL
FEAR FROM THAT AREA. UNDER CONTROL ALSO IS RED SEA COASTAL
AREA SAUDI ARABIA AND SUDAN. HOWEVER, LARGELY BECAUSE OF
POLITICAL DISTURBANCES SURVEY WORK BADLY HANDICAPPED NORTHERN
ERITREA PARTICULARLY SHIFTA AREAS AND ESSENTIAL CONTROL
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MEASURES MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE. ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS FAVORABLE

FOR LARGE CROP IN THESE BREEDING AREAS AND IF THEY NOT CONTROLLED
RAPID MULTIPLICATION WOULD BE EXPECTED APRIL MAY WITH SUBSEQUENT
MIGRATION TO SUDAN. IF RAINS ARE THEN GOOD IN SUMMER MONTHS
NORTH OF KHARTOUM (DARFUR ETC.) SUMMER BREEDING WOULD TAKE
PLACE AND THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE DANGER POINT FOR MIGRATION TO
SAHEL AREAS ABOUT SEPTEMBER OCTOBER.

2. ALTHOUGH LOCUSTS CONTROL GROUP HAS LARGE BASE IN ASMARA
AND SINGH SPEAKS ONLY DELICATELY OF POLITICAL PROBLEMS, IT
IS CLEAR HE IS CONVINCED WORK IS HAMPERED SERIOUSLY.

3. CONTROL GROUP MEETING INVOLVING EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES
IS SCHEDULED FOR ADDIS MAY 26. THIS SHOULD PROVIDE FAIRLY
CLEAR READING ON ALL BUT SUDAN SUMMER RAINS.

4. SINGH HAS BEEN IN CORRESPONDENCE GEROGE CAVIN USDA THIS
SUBJECT. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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